



Nov 1, 2005

Larry E. Craig
United States Senator
520 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Mike Crapo
United States Senator
111 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Member of Congress
1711 Longworth House Office
Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Labor
U.S. Department of Labor
Frances Perkins Building
200 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Secretary Chao,

Stimson Lumber Company recently announced the closing of their Atlas Mill in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. This closing will result in the loss of 120 mill jobs and will have negative economic impacts on related industries in the entire region. As you know, this is not the first mill to close in Idaho because of unfair foreign competition, and it is likely more closings will follow if unfair competition continues.

Stimson Lumber submitted their petition for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) on October 20, 2005. So long as the Canadian Softwood Lumber Trade Dispute remains unresolved, companies such as Stimson will continue to be impacted. The Commerce Department has repeatedly found significant subsidies, and the International Trade Commission has repeatedly confirmed that the lumber industry is threatened with injury by subsidized Canadian lumber imports. Further, such findings have also been upheld by the World Trade Organization.

We fully support TAA for Stimson and respectfully urge the Department of Labor to approve their petition in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Larry E. Craig
United States Senator

Michael D. Crapo
United States Senator

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Member of Congress